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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 2/01/08

SPONSOR Lovejoy LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE Navajo Nation Emergency Management Services SB 508

ANALYST Hanika-Ortiz

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY08	FY09		
	\$100.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Indian Affairs Department (IAD)

Department of Health (DOH)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 508 appropriates \$100 thousand from the General Fund to the IAD in FY09 to provide funding for emergency management services of the Navajo Nation.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

SB 508 appropriates \$100 thousand from the General fund to IAD for expenditure in FY09. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY 2009 shall revert to the general fund.

The Navajo Nation was awarded \$300 thousand for FY07. As of January 30, 2008, they have spent \$14,416.78. The Navajo Nation has three (3) pending requests to utilize the FY07 monies, however, each of the requests lack the necessary supporting documentation to allow for disbursement. The Navajo Nation has until June 2008 to utilize the remaining balance of the FY07 money which is now \$285,583.22 or it will revert back to the General Fund.

The DOH has been consulting and collaborating with the 22 tribes to conduct health emergency preparedness activities and has provided small amounts of federal funds to support these

activities. This year, the tribes have been addressing gaps identified in a preparedness assessment.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

SB 508 will fund operations for the Navajo Nation Department of Emergency Management.

Since 2005, the Navajo Nation has partnered with the State of New Mexico in the “Tribal-State Emergency Preparedness Collaborative” to address tribal emergency preparedness in New Mexico. The Collaborative is comprised of the following partners: 22 New Mexico Tribes and Pueblos, Bureau of Indian Affairs Law Enforcement, Federal Office of Homeland Security, the Governor’s Office of Homeland Security, New Mexico Office of Health Emergency Management, New Mexico Department of Health, the New Mexico Native American Subcommittee of the Emergency Manager’s Association, and the Indian Affairs Department.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

The Federal National Response Framework outlines the required components for a prepared community and the National Preparedness Goal includes distinct and measurable target response capabilities that could be tied to this funding.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

In 2004, the Navajo Nation Department of Emergency Management developed an Emergency Management Plan to address the duties, responsibilities, tasks, and relationships between the Navajo Nation and Federal, State, Counties, and local chapter governments in order to respond to emergencies and disasters. The Department also established a localized emergency management system called the Authorized Local Emergency Management Repose Team (“ALERT”) to respond to local emergencies quickly and effectively.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

- SB 508 relates to SB 15 Tribal Emergency Management. SB 15 would appropriate \$450,000 for regional tribal emergency management services: \$150,000 would be appropriated for the ten southern Indian Pueblos; \$150,000 for the eight northern Indian Pueblos; \$75,000 for the Jicarilla Apache Nation; and \$75,000 for the Mescalero Apache Tribe. No monies are appropriated in that bill for the Navajo Nation.
- SB 508 relates to SB 370 Navajo Nation Emergency Management Services. SB 370 would appropriate \$600,000 for Navajo Nation Emergency Management Services, while SB 508 would only appropriate \$100,000.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

The Navajo Nation is one of the largest tribes in the US with approximately 180,000 members. Its reservation lands encompass nearly 27,000 square miles. The New Mexico portion of the Navajo Nation has a population of 69,524, according to the 2000 Census. The Department “plans, coordinates, responds, supports, educates, monitors and evaluates” the emergency needs of New Mexico Navajo citizens in order to save lives and property.

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

An appropriation of \$100,000 may not be provided to the Indian Affairs Department emergency management services in the Navajo Nation.

AHO/mt